

## Organisational Members' Standards and Code of Conduct

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### This code of conduct applies to members of the following categories:

- **A Category** members: Aboriginal community-controlled organisations, operating in New South Wales and providing out-of-home care services in accordance with the aims of AbSec;
- **B Category** members: Aboriginal organisations operating in New South Wales (whether incorporated or not) other than those incorporations entitled to A and/or E Category membership, that are supportive of the aims of AbSec;
- **E Category** members: community-controlled Aboriginal multi-function children's services organisations or Aboriginal early childhood services operating in New South Wales, that are supportive of the aims of AbSec;
- **F Category** members: organisations that are controlled by non-Aboriginal persons and supportive of the aims of AbSec;
- **H Category** members: corporations that are controlled by non-Aboriginal persons and supportive of the aims of AbSec;
- **I Category** members: organisations providing services to the disability sector, specifically to Aboriginal children, young people, families and communities, which are supportive of the aims of AbSec.

AbSec members share our vision that all Aboriginal children and young people are looked after in safe, thriving Aboriginal families and communities, and are raised strong in spirit and identity, with every opportunity for lifelong wellbeing and connection to culture, surrounded by holistic supports.

AbSec members are united in the belief that Aboriginal children, young people, families, carers and communities should be supported to:

- have their voices heard and their views taken into account;
- achieve their goal of self-determination;
- take the lead role in creating a safe, secure and caring environment for Aboriginal children and young people, as well as Aboriginal people living with disability and their families.

By joining AbSec as an organisational member, you agree to:

- Adhere to the policy positions and values developed by AbSec in partnership with Aboriginal community-controlled organisations, and demonstrate your commitment to these through everyday organisational actions;
- Have and uphold robust standards within your organisation which protect children who come into contact with your work (not applicable if your work does not involve children in any way);
- Place the welfare of children and vulnerable people at the utmost importance in your work (not applicable if your work does not involve children or vulnerable people in any way);
- Behave honestly and with integrity in your communication and dealings with AbSec;

- Treat everyone with respect and courtesy when representing or associating with AbSec, whether in person or online;
- Disclose any potential conflict of interest in connection with your membership with AbSec;
- Use your voice and influence to amplify the concerns of Aboriginal children, families and communities, with respect for Aboriginal self-determination;
- Comply with all State and Commonwealth laws regarding business and organisational standards, including but not limited to mandatory financial declarations and industrial relations laws;
- Notify AbSec of any reputational risks that may be caused by our association with your organisation.

In being a member of AbSec, your organisation pledges to the above standards and code of conduct, and agrees to inform AbSec if at any time you can no longer fulfil these criteria. AbSec reserves the right to terminate membership at any time for organisations that do not comply with the above criteria.



**Tim Ireland**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**AbSec**